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206. (Amended) A method for counting
[nonoperational] analyte-specific signal element features in
data acquired by reading an optical disc having at least one
readable [nonoperational structure] analyte-specific signal
element, said method comprising:

segregating detected widths into a series of
width segments, thereby creating a statistical distribution
of widths that includes at least one peak;

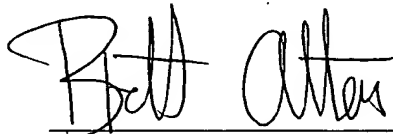
calculating a standard deviation of said
distribution of widths about said at least one peak; and

adding the number of features that fall within
a certain number of said standard deviations.

REMARKS

An early and favorable action is respectfully
requested.

Respectfully submitted,

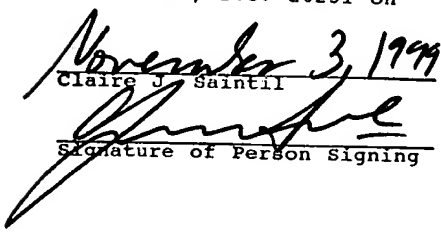


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Claire J. Saintil



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